

Application Serial No: 10/789,569
In reply to Office Action of 7 April 2005

Attorney Docket No. 79830

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Before addressing the present application, the applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by the Examiner in the placed call of April 14, 2005 and the help provided in resolving the objections of the above-identified Office Action.

Claims 1-14 are currently pending in the application. No claims are allowed. Claims 1-14 are objected to. Claims 1-12 have been amended by this response.

This Office Action has objected to the drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the first set and second set of optical fibers must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claims 1-14. The figures show only one optical fiber in the first layer and the second layer. No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawings sheets in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office Action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from

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the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the Examiner, the Applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office Action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

This office action has objected to the specification. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

This office action has objected to claims 1-14 because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, line 5: "with" should be deleted.

Claim 2, line 8: "of" should be deleted.

Claim 4, line 8: "of" should be deleted.

Claim 6, line 8: "of" should be deleted.

Claim 8, line 8: "of" should be deleted.

Claim 10, line 7: "of" should be deleted.

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Claim 12, line 8: "of" should be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

This Office Action has allowable subject matter. Claims 1-14 are allowable.

The following is a statement of reasons for indicating allowable subject matter: Prior art does not show a flexible tow table with two layers of strength members interspersed with optical fibers wherein one optical in the first layer and one in the second layer intersect a common vector extending radially from the central axis of the cable and the temperature is measured by measurement of light emitted onto the vector and the optical fibers as required by independent claims 1, 5 and 9.

These objections are respectfully traversed in view of these amendments and remarks that follow.

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). As stated, the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the first set and second set of optical fibers must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claims 1-14. The figures show only one optical fiber in the first layer and the second layer. No new matter should be entered. In response and agreed upon in the phone call of April 14, 2005, claims 1-12 have been amended

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to remove any reference to either a first "set" or a second "set" of optical fibers. A review of drawings indicates that a first optical fiber exists either as item 40 or 42 and a second optical fiber exists either as item 46 or 50. As such, claims 1-12 now refer to an optical fiber in a first layer and a second optical fiber in a second layer. As a result, the unsupportable features of the claims 1-12 have been removed; therefore, the objection of the Office Action is resolved for claims 1-12 and dependant claims 13 and 14.

In the Office Action, the specification was objected to as having a title of the invention that was not descriptive. In response and agreed upon in the phone call of April 14, 2005, the title has been amended in referenced portions of the application, including the Abstract, to be descriptive of the invention as "A MULTI-LAYER FLEXIBLE OPTICAL FIBER TOW CABLE FOR MEASURING WATER TEMPERATURE". As a result, the objection of the Office Action is resolved for the title of the invention.

In the Office Action, claims 1-14 were objected to because of a list of informalities. In response, the claims listed have been amended to correct the informalities. As a result, the objection of the Office Action is resolved for the affected claims.

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In view of the Remarks above, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the application.

The Examiner is invited to telephone Michael P. Stanley; Attorney for Applicants, at 401-832-4736 if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone call would serve to expedite the prosecution of the subject patent application.

Respectfully submitted,
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26 April 2005

By



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